

**Records of the Committee on  
Interstate and Foreign Commerce  
RG.233.95.IFC  
95th Congress**

**Finding aid prepared by Office of Art and Archives,  
Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
<b>Title</b>	Records of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
<b>Date</b>	1977-1978
<b>Extent</b>	130.8 Cubic feet (circa 327 archival boxes)
<b>Language</b>	English

## Biographical/Historical note

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The predecessors of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce are Committee on Commerce and Manufactures (1795-1819); Committee on Manufactures (1819-1911); and the Committee on Commerce (1819-1892). The name of the committee was changed to Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in 1892. As Congress created new committees to deal with expanding policy concerns, this Committee asserted and maintained its dominant central position as the House's monitor of commercial progress.

In 1819, responsibilities of the committee expanded beyond the creation of navigational aids and oversight of the nascent federal health service to include foreign trade policy. The name changed again in 1892, becoming the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. That durable title sufficed for 90 years, when the Committee assumed its present name in 1981 to emphasize its leading role in the nation's energy policy.

The broad jurisdiction of the committee is reflected in its current name, the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Today it has responsibility for the nation's telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health research, environmental quality, the availability of affordable energy, and the continuance of interstate and foreign commerce. It oversees multiple cabinet-level departments and independent agencies, including the departments of Energy, Health and Human Services, and Transportation, as well as the Federal Trade Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Federal Communications Commission.

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## Scope and Contents note

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The records document the work of the committee during the 95th Congress. The largest series of records are from the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, which contains investigative files into the various issues and agencies in the committee's jurisdiction. The rest of the records are primarily the published work product of the committee, including bills, committee prints, and hearings. There are also dockets and minute books for the 95th Congress.

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## Arrangement note

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The files are arranged into the following series: bill jackets, committee prints, dockets and minutes, executive communications, printed committee hearings, and the records of the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation. Any series arrangement is noted therein.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

### Rule VII

The records are governed by Rule VII(3)b of the House Rules: (b) (1) A record shall immediately be made available if it was previously made available for public use by the House or a committee or a subcommittee. (2) An investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living person (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), an administrative record relating to personnel, or a record relating to a hearing that was closed under clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI shall be made available if it has been in existence for 50 years. (3) A record for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the House shall be made available in accordance with that order. Except as otherwise provided by order of the House, a record of a committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the committee. (4) A record (other than a record referred to in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3)) shall be made available if it has been in existence for 30 years.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Subject(s)

- Power resources
- Smoking

## Bill jackets

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### Collection Inventory

#### **Bill jackets (39 archival boxes)**

##### **Scope and Contents note**

Legislative calender and activity reports and bill jackets for H.R. 3 to H.R. 14405.

##### **Arrangement note**

Arranged by bill number.

#### **Committee prints (2 archival boxes)**

##### **Scope and Contents note**

Committee prints 95-1 to 95-77.

#### **Dockets and minutes (7 archival boxes)**

##### **Scope and Contents note**

Two volumes of docket books and five books of minutes covering 1977-1978.

#### **Official communications (65 archival boxes)**

##### **Scope and Contents note**

**Printed committee hearings**

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Executive communications 191 to 5136, petitions 13 to 557, and memorials 4 to 492, and presidential messages.

**Printed committee hearings (11 archival boxes)****Scope and Contents note**

Printed committee hearings 95-1 to 95-168.

**Subcommittee on Health and the Environment (9 archival boxes)****Scope and Contents note**

General correspondence (1974-1975).

**Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations (172 archival boxes)****Rule VII**

Under House Rule VII, investigative records are closed for a total of 50 years from the date of their creation.

**Scope and Contents note**

Subject files, including hearing transcripts, meetings, reports, and notes and memos. Subjects include energy, energy and the Federal Power Commission, energy and natural gas, regulatory reform, health, securities, Firestone and tires, antibiotics in animal feed, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, hospitals, AT&T and the unlawful interception of telephone messages, National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), radiation, and cigarette smoking. Oversight files of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Legislative files related to energy, The National Energy Act, Pre-Natural Gas Act, Natural Gas Policy Act, and other general legislative issues.

## Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

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### **Arrangement note**

Subject files are arranged in rough alphabetical order.